



17 October 2025

Rachel Hutchinson  
**Principal**

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Living with Purpose and Aspiration**

A huge congratulations to all our students who have been engaging so thoughtfully with their My Sentence on ClassCharts. These aspirational statements are more than just words, they are reflections of our young people's dreams, values and sense of purpose. We encourage you to take a moment this weekend to ask your child about their sentence, celebrate their vision, and share it with family and friends. It is a meaningful way to live out our College values of respect, compassion, integrity and aspiration.

It has been truly inspiring to see students and staff across the College embracing this initiative. Last week, our Deputy Principal, Mrs Offer, led a powerful workshop with students who have found school attendance challenging. Through My Sentence, they explored how purpose and belonging can transform their experience.

If you feel your child would benefit from this opportunity, please complete this form: [Belonging Workshop - sign up form](#). Further sessions will be available after the half-term break.

We are also delighted to announce the return of our **Parent/Carer Excellence Days** following the success of last year's Parent/Carer Opening Morning. After half term, we will be inviting parents/carers to visit the College, meet staff and experience The Ivybridge Way in action. Please look out for updates and opportunities to get involved.

## **Supporting Success and Safety**

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 students for their dedication and enthusiasm during Block 6 study sessions. Attendance at after-college sessions has reached an all-time high and it is clear that our students are striving to give themselves the best chance of success. The Year 11 Examination Series begins on Friday, 17 October 2025 and we are confident that our students will shine.

As a united learning community, let us rally behind our Year 11 students. Please help us maintain a calm and focused environment by supporting silent paired transitions in corridors and respecting signage around examination venues. These small acts of consideration go a long way in upholding our value of respect and ensuring every student can perform at their best.

On Wednesday, 15 October 2025, we conducted a planned lockdown drill across the College. Our students responded with maturity, calmness and confidence; an outstanding demonstration of integrity and community spirit. Please take time to talk through the experience with your child, and let us know if they need any additional support. We are here to ensure every member of our College feels safe, supported and heard.

## **Strengthening Community and Connection**

In the coming weeks, we will be reviewing our mobile phone policy with a focus on reducing social media distractions in and out of school. We would love to hear your thoughts on how we can work together to create a learning environment free from unnecessary pressures.

Students will be invited to take part in feasibility studies exploring their relationship with social media and how it affects their wellbeing. We encourage you to look at your child's screen time and consider how it may influence sleep, physical activity and social connections. If you would like advice or support on this topic, please contact the College at [icc@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:icc@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk) and we will connect you directly with the right experts.

By working in partnership, we can ensure that every student is supported to flourish both within and beyond the College.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Hutchinson  
**Principal**

**Respect ■ Aspiration ■ Integrity ■ Compassion**